Abstract

The invention pertains to synthetic (*s*) peptides derived from the viral regulatory protein R (Vpr) of the human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1), particularly the chemical synthesis of the 96 amino acid full length Vpr protein (*s*Vpr$^{1-96}$), of a 47 amino acid long N-terminal (*s*Vpr$^{1-47}$), of a 49 amino acid long C-terminal fragment (*s*Vpr$^{48-96}$) as well as fragments thereof (*s*Vpr$^{1-20}$ and *s*Vpr$^{21-40}$) and further approximately 15 amino acid long fragments of *s*Vpr$^{1-96}$. As fragments or full length products of the HIV-1 regulatory protein, those products are used in biological assays, for molecular and structural characterization of Vpr and domains thereof, as well as for the development of anti-Vpr antibodies directed against Vpr peptide sequences.